UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/50/233
16 October 1995
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

Fiftieth session

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITION SUB-ITEM
IN THE AGENDA OF THE FIFTIETH SESSION

REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Letter dated 13 October 1995 from the representatives of Argentina, the Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On the instructions of our Governments and in accordance with the provisions of rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, we have the honour to request the inclusion of "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights" as an additional sub-item, which would become sub-item "e", of item 112, "Human rights questions", of the agenda of the fiftieth session of the General Assembly.

An explanatory memorandum is annexed hereto, in accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

(Signed) Emilio CARDENAS
Permanent Representative
of Argentina

(Signed) Harcourt L. TURNQUEST
Permanent Representative
of the Bahamas

(Signed) Edward A. LAING
Permanent Representative
of Belize

(Signed) Edgar CAMACHO OMISTE
Permanent Representative
of Bolivia

(Signed) Celso Luiz Nunes AMORIM
Permanent Representative
of Brazil

(Signed) Juan SOMAVIA
Permanent Representative
of Chile

(Signed) Alejandro BORDA
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of Colombia

(Signed) Bruno RODRIGUEZ PARRILLA
Permanent Representative
of Cuba

(Signed) Luis VALENCIA RODRIGUEZ
Permanent Representative
of Ecuador

(Signed) Robert MILLETTE
Permanent Representative
of Grenada

(Signed) Samuel R. INSANALLY
Permanent Representative
of Guyana

(Signed) Patricia DURRANT
Permanent Representative
of Jamaica

(Signed) Erich VILCHEZ ASHER
Permanent Representative
of Nicaragua

(Signed) José Félix FERNANDEZ ESTIGARRIBIA
Permanent Representative
of Paraguay

(Signed) Kevin ISAAC
Minister and Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of Saint Kitts and Nevis

(Signed) Irma E. KLEIN-LOEMBAN TOBING
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of Suriname

(Signed) Jorge PEREZ OTERMIN
Permanent Representative
of Uruguay

(Signed) José Manuel GUTIERREZ
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of Costa Rica

(Signed) Alfonso CANTO DINZEY
Permanent Representative
of the Dominican Republic

(Signed) Ricardo CASTANEDA-CORNEJO
Permanent Representative
of El Salvador

(Signed) Julio Armando MARTINI HERRERA
Permanent Representative
of Guatemala

(Signed) Gerardo MARTINEZ BLANCO
Permanent Representative
of Honduras

(Signed) Manuel TELLO
Permanent Representative
of Mexico

(Signed) Jorge E. ILLUECA
Permanent Representative
of Panama

(Signed) Fernando GUILLEN
Permanent Representative
of Peru

(Signed) George William ODLUM
Permanent Representative
of Saint Lucia

(Signed) Annette des ILES
Permanent Representative
of Trinidad and Tobago

(Signed) Enrique TEJERA-PARIS
Permanent Representative
of Venezuela

ANNEX

Explanatory memorandum

The United Nations General Assembly, by its resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, considering, inter alia, that the promotion and the protection of all human rights is one of the priorities of the international community, and aware that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, decided to create the post of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

The General Assembly provided that the High Commissioner would be the United Nations official with principal responsibility for United Nations human rights activities under the direction and authority of the Secretary-General and within the framework of the overall competence, authority and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights.

In the aforesaid resolution, the General Assembly enumerated the High Commissioner's responsibilities, which basically involve promoting and protecting the effective enjoyment by all of all civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights. In the performance of his/her duties, the High Commissioner should be guided by the principles of impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity, in the spirit of constructive international dialogue and cooperation.

The General Assembly requested the High Commissioner to report annually on his/her activities, in accordance with his/her mandate, to the Commission on Human Rights and, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly.

It is therefore necessary to include in the agenda of the General Assembly a specific item relating to the above-mentioned report of the High Commissioner; this would also facilitate the Assembly's consideration of the report. This could be effected by adding a new sub-item, which would become sub-item "e", under item 112, "Human rights questions".

Item 112 has been allocated to the Third Committee.